

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An ignition method for a solid fuel apparatus, in particular a heating apparatus or barbecue-type cooking apparatus, wherein said method comprises a step of blowing hot air on at least one part of said solid fuel which is arranged in a container ~~(6)~~ of said apparatus, in order to ~~ignite~~ initiate the combustion of said at least one fuel part.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein hot air is blown on said fuel after combustion starting of said at least one part of said solid fuel, in order to increase the combustion extension of said fuel or to poke combustion in said container ~~(6)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ or 2, wherein hot air is blown on said fuel before combustion starting of said at least one part of said solid fuel, in order to clear moisture from said fuel.

4. (Currently Amended) A solid fuel apparatus, in particular a heating apparatus or barbecue-type cooking apparatus, for carrying out a method according to claim 1, comprising a container ~~(6)~~ for containing a solid fuel, wherein said apparatus comprising at least means ~~(3, 4, 5)~~ for generating a hot air stream on at least one part of said solid fuel.

5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said container ~~(6)~~ comprises a furnace grid ~~(9)~~, an ash pit ~~(10)~~ disposed under said furnace grid, said furnace

grid and said ash pit being disposed in the bottom of said container, said means for generating a hot air stream on at least one part of said solid fuel comprising:

- a pipe (1) to conduct said hot air stream into said container, one end of which leads to said grid into said container, or over to said grid,
- a hot air stream generator (3, 4, 5) disposed out of said container and connected to the other end of said pipe.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said pipe (1) to conduct said hot air stream to said container moreover comprises hot air providing means to said ash pit, one end of which leads to said grid into said container or over to said grid and the other end of which is connected to a hot air stream generator.

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said apparatus comprises shutting means to obturate said feeding means with hot air to said ash pit (10), movable between two positions, a first position where said feeding means is open and a second position where said feeding means is closed.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~anyone of claims 4 to 7~~ claim 7 wherein said apparatus comprises regulating means (2) for said hot air stream headed by said pipe (1).

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~anyone of claims 4 to 8~~ claim 8 wherein said apparatus comprises means (15) for diffusion of said hot air stream in a horizontal plane and radially into said container (6).

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~anyone of claims 5 to 9~~claim 4, wherein said pipe (1) comprises one end connected to an air stream generator, several sleeves (12) of different diameters comprising respectively one or several entries, enabling the adaptation of one or several fans (4,5) equipped with heating resistance (3) by rapid-junction means.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~anyone of claims 5 to 10~~claim 10, wherein said pipe (1) is adaptable onto said apparatus by a simple drilling at the bottom of said ash pit (10), said pipe being quickly fitted on said apparatus by way of thread, lug, quarter turn milled ring or by rapid-junction means.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~anyone of claims 5 to 11~~claim 11, wherein said pipe (1) merges into said ash pit (10) until brushing against said furnace grid (9) of said apparatus.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~anyone of claims 5 to 12~~claim 12, wherein said pipe (1) is fitted onto said ash pit (10) by rapid-junction means, enabling a quick removing of said pipe in order to enable emptying of said ash pit.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~anyone of claims 5 to 13~~claim 13, wherein said pipe (1) is drilled by oblique holes (14) along its upper surround, in order to diffuse the most widely, by way of a hot air stream division caused by a truncated washer (13) disposed inside said pipe, dividing said hot stream for one part towards said ash pit (10) and for an other part towards said container into which the furnace of said apparatus is situated.